

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a telecommunications network, a communication channel identifier agent (CCIA) is employed to identify communication channels. The CCIA directs the ISUP layer residing on a node to create Interface Identifiers (IntfIDs). The IntfIDs may contain an originating point code and a network identifier. The IntfIDs allow a node to use more than one originating point code to identify itself to other nodes in the telecommunications network. The IntfIDs are combined with circuit identification codes to identify communication channels between nodes in the telecommunications network.